CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please accept the following specification paragraphs in re-written "clean form".

The following paragraph replaces the 2nd full paragraph on page 3:

Advantageously, this method eliminates the need for a buffing or sanding step after casting, and furthermore eliminates the need for an adhesive between the reinforcing film and the foam layer of the cushion tape. The method also produces a tape that reduces or eliminates delamination of the foam from the reinforcing film during removal of the printing plate from the cylinder after use. The result is a more streamlined and economical manufacturing process. The product tape exhibits improved performance during removal after use compared to known manufacturing methods. It also allows the production of thinner tapes, for example a 15 mil (0.38 millimeter) tape, which the current process cannot produce.

The following paragraph replaces the 3rd full paragraph on page 4:

As shown in Figure 1, in one embodiment the improved foam cushion tape 10 comprises a layer of compressible, open-celled polyurethane foam 12 disposed on a composite reinforcing film 14. The thickness of polyurethane foam layer 12 will typically be about 5 to about 60 mils (about 125 to about 1500 microns), and preferably about 12 to about 17 mils (about 300 to about 425 microns). The foam can be of variable compressibility as is known in the art.

The following paragraph replaces the last paragraph on page 16 continuing onto page 17:

To test adhesion of the foam to the reinforcing film, a polyurethane foam was cast onto a variety of reinforcing films (Table 1). Accordingly, all foam components (polyol, catalyst and additives except for surfactant, pigment, and isocyanate) were mixed and placed in a holding tank with agitation and under dry nitrogen. This mixture was then pumped at a controlled flow rate to a high shear mixing head of the Oakes type. The isocyanate, surfactant, and pigment mixture were also separately pumped into the mixing head at controlled flow rates and at the proper flow ratios relative to the polyols mixture flow rate. Flow meters were used to measure and adjust the flow rates of the various raw material streams. Dry air was introduced into the mix head using a gas flow rate controller to adjust the airflow rate such that cured material had a density of about 30 pounds per cubic foot (481 kilograms per cubic meter). After mixing and foaming in the high shear mixer, the materials were pumped through flexible hoses and out through rigid nozzles.